

For Immediate Release

Contact: Erica Daughtrey

September 23, 2009

201-222-2828

Funding will allow communities to create jobs and revitalize neighborhoods

Washington, D.C. Today, Congressman Albio Sires announced that communities across the state will receive over \$16 million from the Recovery Act's Community Development Block Grant Program. This funding enables state and local governments to undertake a wide range of activities intended to create suitable living environments, provide affordable housing and create economic opportunities.

"The Community Development Block Grant program is a great tool that communities can use to improve the lives of their residents," said Sires. "Even with an improving economy, our communities can use this funding to strengthen the job and housing markets, which still are struggling."

Locally, Essex County will receive \$1,647,529; Hudson County will receive \$1,003,809, and Middlesex County will receive \$523,531. Some towns in the 13th district also qualified for direct funding. Those include Jersey City, which will receive \$1,749,827; Newark, which will receive \$2,310,137; and Woodbridge, which will receive \$177,552.

"This funding, which was approved in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, represents the final payment of Community Development Block Grant funding. All \$1 billion appropriated by Congress has now been distributed," explained Sires.

###